

26 June 2013

English, French and Spanish only*

**Twenty-third Meeting of Heads of
National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies,
Latin America and the Caribbean**
Quito, 30 September-4 October 2013

Provisional agenda and annotations

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Major regional drug trafficking trends and countermeasures.
4. Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Twenty-second Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean.
5. Consideration of topics by working groups:
 - (a) Demand reduction, prevention measures and drug dependence treatment;
 - (b) Trafficking trends;
 - (c) Manufacture of cocaine and amphetamine-type stimulants and precursor control.
6. Follow-up to the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem.
7. Organization of the Twenty-fourth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean.
8. Other business.
9. Adoption of the report of the Twenty-third Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean.

* English, French and Spanish are the working languages of the subsidiary body.



Annotations

1. Election of officers

Elections are held in accordance with rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council. Meetings of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean, have in the past elected a Chair, two Vice-Chairs and a Rapporteur.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

At its thirty-eighth session, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs recommended that general statements and statistics relating to national trends in drug trafficking should not be read out during meetings but rather circulated in written form. Bearing that recommendation in mind, Governments were invited to submit to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), by 30 July 2013, a two-page report on the most recent trends in drug trafficking in their countries. Only those country reports that have been received by that date will be translated into the other working languages of the Meeting.

Following the adoption of the agenda, the Twenty-third Meeting is to establish a timetable for the Meeting. A provisional timetable for the consideration of the Meeting is contained in the annex to the present document.

Documentation

Provisional agenda and annotations (UNODC/HONLAC/23/1)

3. Major regional drug trafficking trends and countermeasures

The item will be introduced by a representative of UNODC, who will provide an overview of current drug trafficking trends.

Participants are invited to inform the Twenty-third Meeting of action taken by their Governments to enhance regional and subregional cooperation in areas such as joint investigations, law enforcement training and sharing of information on and experiences with drug trafficking countermeasures.

Participants are requested to inform the Meeting of action taken to counter drug trafficking and practical problems impeding cooperation at the regional and subregional levels, as well as measures to overcome such problems.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on statistics on drug trafficking trends in the Americas and worldwide (UNODC/HONLAC/23/2)

Note by the Secretariat on the current situation with respect to regional and subregional cooperation (UNODC/HONLAC/23/CRP.1)

4. Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Twenty-second Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean

Participants are invited to inform the Twenty-third Meeting of action taken by their Governments to implement the recommendations adopted at the Twenty-second Meeting, held in Antigua, Guatemala, from 1 to 5 October 2012. For its consideration of the item, the Twenty-third Meeting will have before it a note by the Secretariat based on the replies submitted by Governments to a questionnaire on action taken to implement the recommendations.

To enable the Secretariat to prepare a report on the status of implementation of the recommendations, Governments were urged to return the completed questionnaire by 30 July 2013.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on the review of implementation of the recommendations adopted at the Twenty-second Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean (UNODC/HONLAC/23/3)

5. Consideration of topics by working groups

Ad hoc working groups will be established to consider drug trafficking issues of regional importance and to facilitate informal discussions and frank exchanges of views, with a view to enhancing cooperation between drug law enforcement agencies. The working groups are invited to present their findings, conclusions and recommendations to the plenary for endorsement and inclusion in the report of the Twenty-third Meeting.

On the basis of consultations on developments in the region, each working group will be invited to consider one of the issues below.

(a) Demand reduction, prevention measures and drug dependence treatment

The working group will encourage participants to share information on the contribution of their respective agencies to national drug demand reduction strategies, including concrete examples of successful strategies and remaining challenges. The discussion will cover various models for reducing illicit drug demand and protecting public health and will reflect the diversity of approaches of demand reduction policies and practices. Occupational safety and health procedures for the handling of injecting drug users potentially at risk of suffering from hepatitis or HIV will also be discussed.

(b) Trafficking trends

The discussion of the working group will focus on identifying new trafficking trends across the region and appropriate responses from law enforcement agencies. For instance, at the Twenty-second Meeting, microtrafficking (large-scale trafficking of drugs in small quantities destined for domestic consumption) was identified as a growing threat (see UNODC/HONLAC/22/5). In addition, while trafficking by sea remains a popular means for the illegal transport of significant volumes of cocaine throughout the region, added challenges include new trends in the use of

submersible vessels; the developing trend of trafficking in liquid cocaine; and enhanced methods of concealment in trafficking using containers. During their interventions, participants could also comment on the increasing levels of violence associated with illicit trafficking and the growing trend of using low-value money transfers to evade detection by authorities' money-laundering countermeasures. Delegates are asked to come prepared to share their observations on new trends and examples of their operational experiences in combating these challenges.

(c) Manufacture of cocaine and amphetamine-type stimulants and precursor control

The working group will examine the trends observed by authorities over the past 12 months in their investigations regarding the illicit manufacture of and trafficking in cocaine and amphetamine-type stimulants and the diversion of precursor chemicals used in their illegal manufacture. Participants are encouraged to discuss recent trends and new developments in the area of diversion of precursors and essential chemicals, as well as strategies adopted by Member States of the region to address the problem. Participants are requested to make reference to operational investigations, in order to highlight the actual practices and procedures authorities follow in overcoming these challenges.

6. Follow-up to the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem

In its resolution 64/182, the General Assembly, welcoming the outcome of the high-level segment of the fifty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, adopted the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem (A/64/92-E/2009/98, sect. II.A), as adopted at that high-level segment, and called upon States to take the measures necessary to fully implement the actions set out therein, with a view to attaining in a timely manner their goals and targets.

Member States committed themselves to effectively implementing the Political Declaration and Plan of Action through resolute international cooperation, in collaboration with relevant regional and international organizations.

In its resolution 67/193, the General Assembly encouraged the meetings of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies and of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to continue to contribute to the strengthening of regional and international cooperation.

In the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, Member States decided that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, at its fifty-seventh session, in 2014, should conduct a high-level review of the implementation by Member States of the Declaration and Plan of Action.

In its resolution 56/10, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs requested the meetings of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission to contribute to the monitoring of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on

International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem¹ at the regional level by discussing regional views on progress made in that regard under the agenda item entitled “Follow-up to the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem”.

In the same resolution, the Commission encouraged Member States to consider the expertise and composition of their delegations to the meetings of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission, with a view to covering the various aspects of the world drug problem (demand, supply and international cooperation) in order to hold substantive discussions on the issue and to actively participate in the above-mentioned agenda item, and requested the meetings of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission, on the basis of their deliberations, to submit regional recommendations aimed at positively moving forward in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action.

Under the agenda item, participants will be invited to consider the challenges posed to the States of the region with regard to the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, particularly of part II of the Plan of Action, on supply reduction and related measures, but also regarding the implementation of part I, on demand reduction and related measures and the part on countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation to enhance international cooperation. In that connection, delegations were requested in a note verbale dated 30 May 2013 to include in their written reports on the illicit drug trafficking situation in their countries and their Government’s regional and subregional cooperation efforts, information on demand reduction and international cooperation on countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation.

7. Organization of the Twenty-fourth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean

The Twenty-third Meeting is to consider a draft provisional agenda for the Twenty-fourth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean, including topics for discussion in working groups and possible venues for future meetings. For planning purposes, a decision at the Twenty-third Meeting on the venue of the Twenty-fourth Meeting and the topics for the working groups would greatly facilitate the preparation and organization of the Twenty-fourth Meeting. The Secretariat will provide, upon request, a copy of the standard letter of agreement setting out the contributions of the United Nations and of the host Government.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on the organization of the Twenty-fourth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean (UNODC/HONLAC/23/4)

¹ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8 (E/2009/28)*, chap. I, sect. C.

8. Other business

Under the item on other business, the Twenty-third Meeting may wish to address other important issues, such as urgent matters arising from the country reports.

9. Adoption of the report of the Twenty-third Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean

The Twenty-third Meeting will adopt its report, including the findings, conclusions and recommendations of the working groups, on the last day of the Meeting.

Annex

Provisional timetable

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Title or description</i>
Monday, 30 September	8.30 a.m.		Registration
	10 a.m.		Opening of the Twenty-third Meeting
		1	Election of officers
		2	Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters
		3	Major regional drug trafficking trends and countermeasures
	2.30 p.m.	3	Major regional drug trafficking trends and countermeasures (<i>continued</i>)
Tuesday, 1 October	10 a.m.	4	Implementation of the recommendations adopted by the Twenty-second Meeting
	2.30 p.m.	5	Consideration of topics by working groups
Wednesday, 2 October	10 a.m.	5	Consideration of topics by working groups (<i>continued</i>)
	2.30 p.m.	5	Consideration of topics by working groups (<i>continued</i>)
Thursday, 3 October	10 a.m.	5	Consideration of topics by working groups (<i>continued</i>)
	2.30 p.m.	6	Follow-up to the Political Declaration and Plan of Action
Friday, 4 October	10 a.m.	7	Organization of the Twenty-fourth Meeting
	2.30 p.m.	8	Other business
		9	Adoption of the report of the Twenty-third Meeting